

Message Text

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15

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-05

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OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01 NEA-06 /086 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7150

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 9557

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, TU

SUBJ: GOT VIEWS ON ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS

1. MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR PETROLEUM AFFAIRS, NURES, TOLD ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR DECEMBER 9 THAT GOT ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO PARTICIPATION IN WORK OF INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY. ENERGY SITUATION IS EXPECTED TO BE MATTER OF CRITICAL CONCERN FOR TURKEY AND OTHER NET CONSUMING COUNTRIES UNTIL THE END OF THIS CENTURY AT LEAST. AS TURKEY IS A LOW INCOME COUNTRY WITH LIMITED DOMESTIC PETROLEUM RESOURCES, ISSUE IS EVEN MORE CRITICAL FOR TURKEY THAN FOR US. BEFORE DECIDING TO JOIN IEA, AS CHARTER MEMBER, GOT HAD TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHERE ITS INTERESTS WOULD ON BALANCE LIE. PARTICULARLY IT HAD TO CONSIDER WHETHER PARTICIPATION IN IEA WOULD HARM ITS RELATIONS WITH MEMBERS OF OPEC WHICH ARE AMONG ITS CLOSE NEIGHBORS AND ON WHICH TURKEY DEPENDS FOR PETROLEUM SUPPLY. BALANCE OF PROS AND CONS OF SITUATION WAS CLEARLY IN FAVOR OF JOINING IEA. TURKEY CONSEQUENTLY EXPECTS TO BE AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT. NURES INDICATED THAT GOT HAD EXPLAINED TO VARIOUS OPEC MEMBERS REASON FOR ITS DECISION TO JOIN IEA AND THEY UNDERSTOOD TURKEY MADE DECISION IN ITS OWN INTEREST AS AN OIL CONSUMING COUNTRY AND

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A DEVELOPING COUNTRY.

2. NURES SAID THERE HAS BEEN NO INDICATION THAT ITS RELATIONS WITH OPEC COUNTRIES HAVE SUFFERED AS A RESULT OF ITS DECISION TO JOIN IEA. IN FACT, TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH ARAB OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES ARE EVEN BETTER THAN THEY WERE AT BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR. TURKEY HAS BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN ALL OF ITS REQUIREMENTS FOR CRUDE PETROLEUM. EVEN AT THE HEIGHT OF CYPRUS CRISIS TURKEY HAD NO FEARS AT ALL ABOUT NOT HAVING ENOUGH PETROLEUM.

3. NURES SAID GOT UNDERSTANDS FULLY US GOVERNMENT'S WISH TO SEE CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN CONSUMING COUNTRIES ADVANCE, BEFORE MEETING OF PRODUCING AND CONSUMING COUNTRIES TAKES PLACE, HOWEVER, GOT HAS QUALMS ABOUT DELAYING TOO LONG BEFORE BEGINNING DIALOGUE WITH PRODUCING COUNTRIES. SOME PRODUCING COUNTRIES HAVE ALREADY EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT DEALING WITH RECYCLING OF PETRODOLLARS. THIS IS ENCOURAGING STEP AND IS AN INDICATION OF MODERATION BY SOME OIL PRODUCERS. HE BELIEVES CONSUMING COUNTRIES (AND PARTICULARLY LDC'S) SHOULD NOT IGNORE OR OTHERWISE ALLOW THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BE LOST. NURES SAID BECAUSE OF TURKEY'S CURRENT GOOD RELATIONS WITH ARAB OPEC MEMBERS IT WOULD BE PREPARED TO HELP TO EXPLAIN PARTICULAR VIEWS OF CONSUMER COUNTRIES TO THEM. AS MENTIONED ABOVE, HE INDICATED GOT HAS ALREADY EXPLAINED ITS CONCERNS AS A DEVELOPING CONSUMER COUNTRY TO ITS OPEC NEIGHBORS. HOWEVER, BROADER MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE IS ESSENTIAL IF PRICE ISSUE IS TO BE SETTLED TO MUTUAL SATISFACTION OF PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS.

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